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Ser. No. 09/911,142

REMARKS

Claims 1-36 are pending in the application. Claims 19-36 are newly added.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 19-36 are allowable over the cited art for reciting, in part:

a protective film on the adhesive layer having at least one tear line formed of a series of perforations, said tear line being formed in a longitudinal direction of the tape; and

the tape being folded upon itself in a transverse direction along the tear line such that the protective film is disposed on an outer layer of the tape after folding.

It is respectfully submitted that the newly added claims are allowable over the cited art. The present invention is directed to an adhesive tape including a combination of an adhesive layer protected by a peelable protective film, the protective film having at least one tear line in a longitudinal direction and the tape is folded upon itself in a transverse direction along the tear line, and said tear line being perforated. With this combination of features, such an inventive tape is easily processed (adhesive layer, peelable protective film, folding upon itself) and it provides a good long-time sealing connection of joints in house construction due to the at least one tear line, which provides for a secure hold due to the fact that the perforation openings permit partial penetration of the tape by a layer such as plaster, which is to be applied subsequently on at least a partial region of the tape

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after it has been processed. Thus, long-time stability of a sealing connection can be achieved. In particular, moisture does not have an adverse effect on the sealing connection using a tape according to the invention due to the perforation providing long-time stability of the connection.

This long-time stability cannot be achieved by using a tape which only uses an adhesive layer. As none of the cited documents give any teaching or suggestion to combine a tape for closing, sealing or gluing joints in house construction having an adhesive layer, a peelable protective film, a tear line and folded tape design, with a tape design having at least the tear line being perforated, the subject matter of the invention cannot be rendered obvious by the cited references. There is no combination of the cited references rendering the subject matter obvious.

Fees

Twenty-eight claims in excess of twenty are added. Accordingly, please charge the fee of \$504.00 to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

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In light of the foregoing, the application is now believed to be in proper form for allowance of all claims and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 10-1250.

Respectfully submitted,
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